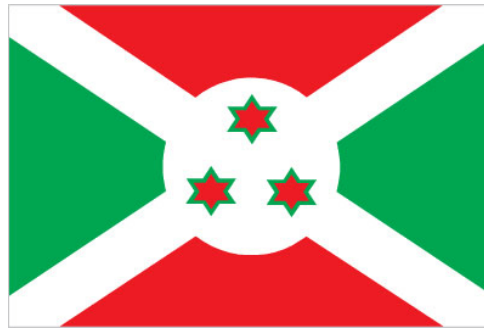




BURUNDI



INTRODUCTION

Burundi gained its independence from Belgium in 1962 as the Kingdom of Burundi, but the monarchy was overthrown in 1966 and a republic established. The assassination of Burundi's president in 1993 triggered over 10 years of ethnic violence between Hutu and Tutsi factions. Political violence and non-democratic transfers of power have marked much of its history.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE

Head of Government

President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE

Government Type

presidential republic

Capital

Gitega (political capital), Bujumbura (commercial capital)

Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of Senate (39 seats) and National Assembly (123 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 27,830 sq km

Land: 25,680 sq km

Water: 2,150 sq km

Climate

equatorial; high plateau with considerable altitude variation; two wet seasons (February to May and September to November) and two dry seasons (June to August and December to January)

Natural Resources

nickel, uranium, rare earth oxides, peat, cobalt, copper, platinum, vanadium, arable land, hydropower, niobium, tantalum, gold, tin, tungsten, kaolin, limestone

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

highly agrarian, low-income Sub-Saharan economy; declining foreign assistance; increasing fiscal insolvencies; dense and still growing population; COVID-19 weakened economic recovery and flipped two years of deflation

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$8.69 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$700 (2020 est.)

Industries - light consumer goods (sugar, shoes, soap, beer), cement, assembly of imported components, public works construction, food processing (fruits)

Agricultural products - cassava, bananas, sweet potatoes, plantains, beans, vegetables, potatoes, cashew nuts, maize, taro

Exports \$279 million (2019 est.)

gold, coffee, tea, raw earth metal ores, wheat flours (2019)
partners: UAE 50%, Democratic Republic of the Congo 7% (2019)

Imports \$1.04 billion (2019 est.)

refined petroleum, packaged medicines, cement, raw sugar, cars (2019)

partners: China 14%, Saudi Arabia 14%, India 9%, Kenya 7%, UAE 7%, Tanzania 5%, Zambia 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

12.2 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

3.68% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Hutu, Tutsi, Twa (Pygmy)

Language

Kirundi 29.7% (official), French only .3% (official), Swahili only .2%, English only .1% (official), Kirundi and French 8.4%, Kirundi, French, and English 2.4%, other language combinations 2%, unspecified 56.9% (2008 est.)

Religion

Roman Catholic 62.1%, Protestant 23.9% (includes Adventist 2.3% and other Protestant 21.6%), Muslim 2.5%, other 3.6%, unspecified 7.9% (2008 est.)

